SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5298**

7	5			4		3		
					2		7	4
4							9	
				9	3		5	
	6	1					8	9
8			2					
			4		1	6		5
		6	5			9		
5		8		6	9			

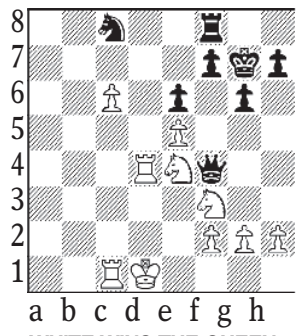
TRICKY **B5298**

9			4		7	3		
					2	8	5	
7		5	6					
	9	4			1		2	
1			8				6	
								3
				8				1
		6						
2		3			9		4	

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

CHESS



a b c d e f g h

WHITE WINS THE QUEEN

HINT: Finish with the rook.

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD

VITALIZED

(VITALIZED: VY-tuh-lyz'd: Animated.)

AVERAGE MARK 45 WORDS

Time limit 60 minute

Can you find 61 or more words in VITALIZED?

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. Words must be of four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

YESTERDAY'S WORD — SOLICITOUS

scoot	soul	loot	cost
scout	stoic	loss	coulis
silo	stool	lost	cult
silt	suit	lotic	cuss
situs	oculist	lotus	cutis
slit	olio	lust	toil
slot	oust	clot	tool
soil	licit	clout	toss
solicit	list	coil	
solo	loco	colitis	
soloist	locus	colt	
soot	locust	cool	

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
PTCL Complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111- 001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

METRO EVENTS

FOOD BAZAAR

'French Artisanal Crafts and Gourmet Food Bazaar 2026', organised by the French Speaking Women's Association, at Alliance Fran aise de Karachi, at 3pm.

MEDICAL CAMP

A free medical camp is organised at Ashiyana Clinics, Plot Special D-3, Block-6, PECHS, at 1pm.

SYMPOSIUM

'9th International PCDA Symposium 2026' is held at Hall No 3, Expo Centre, at 9am.

FLOWER SHOW

'Flower Show 2026' is underway at Khadija Park, Gulshan-i-Iqbal, Block 13-A, at 4:30pm.

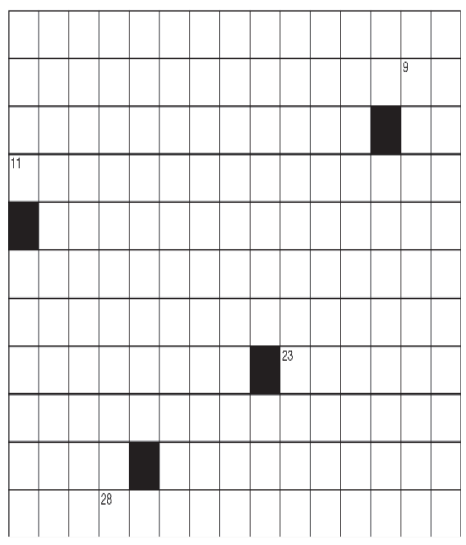
PLAY

The Dumb Waiter is staged at T2F at 8pm.

EXHIBITION

Celebrating the Heritage of Karachi Vol 3, an exhibition, opens at Ahmed Parvez Art Gallery, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 4:30pm.

THE SKELETON CROSSWORD



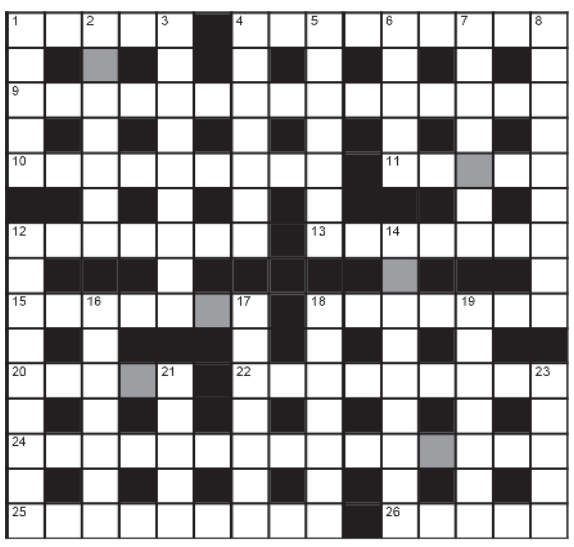
ACROSS

1 One's burning desire?
6 Lie that made me laugh loudly at first
8 Nick Owen's back trouble
10 Hollow heart of hated man
11 Legend on a weapon, look
13 A man older than 51 embraced
15 A poem about Yemen striking the residents as dull
16 Short sequence a Greek character reversed
17 Brown edges of straggly plant
18 US city fashionable in the past
21 Ernie's friend almost had her
23 A glove might be there
25 Smell second disagreeable smell
26 One or more affirmative replies
27 An extremely incomplete state
28 Dating a leftist is mad!

DOWN

1 Mean lady breaking slate
2 Black Knight follows rant
3 The way men talk and curse
4 Bad time in the middle of the day
5 Insect idea initially opposed
7 Old boy linked to what Spaniards use in a plant indirectly
9 German place in nice compound, basically
12 Tom and Chester briefly get on
14 A student a school admitted
19 Boasts about alien expedition
20 Choose to turn pro
22 She's upset by his conclusion
24 Some gauche admiral's command

THE SQUIRE'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Prairie (5)
4 French sticks (9)
9 Identical (15)
10 Clarify, expound (9)
11 Motif (5)
12 16 of Wisconsin (7)
13 Hastily-made devices (4-3)
15 Destructive insects (7)
18 Embarrassment (7)
20 Deceived (5)
22 Fair (9)
24 No longer a factor (3,2,3,7)
25 Ability to endure (9)
26 Alas (5)

DOWN

1 Peak (5)
2 Amaze (7)
3 Daffodil genus (9)
4 Sheikhdom on the Persian Gulf (7)
5 Refined (7)
6 Incident (5)
7 Frozen scene (7)
8 Become sensible (3,6)
12 Clumsy (9)
14 Rebellious Roman gladiator (9)
16 Main city (7)
17 ___ Sondheim, US songwriter (7)
18 Scrunch up (7)
19 Ricochet (7)
21 Ruin, end (2,3)
23 Mournful song or poem (5)

TELEWORD

By David Ouellet

H	C	T	E	R	T	S	T	E	P	S	S	K	C	W
M	P	R	U	N	N	G	S	G	S	L	A	R	J	E
A	R	U	A	O	N	S	E	D	A	A	F	A	O	L
N	T	E	O	I	E	G	R	U	L	Z	O	P	G	L
I	L	Z	D	R	A	C	T	B	O	Y	G	E	G	N
C	E	A	V	S	G	I	L	R	N	N	G	E	I	E
U	E	I	S	O	R	M	L	A	I	C	A	F	N	S
R	C	A	W	G	N	A	G	T	S	D	M	F	G	S
E	M	R	O	N	P	G	E	N	E	S	E	O	N	G
S	A	E	R	I	S	E	R	H	I	G	E	C	I	N
I	R	Y	K	P	M	R	E	E	T	N	N	S	G	I
R	K	A	O	P	S	Y	K	L	S	A	N	U	G	Y
N	E	R	U	O	W	A	L	K	S	E	E	A	O	A
U	T	P	T	H	H	I	K	I	N	G	T	R	L	L
S	P	A	S	S	T	S	A	F	K	A	E	R	B	P

HOW TO PLAY:

All the words above appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and circle their letters. The leftover letters spell the Teleword.

WEEKEND ROUTINES **SOLUTION: 8 LETTERS**

Blogging, Breakfasts, Breathe, Budge, Classes, Clean, Coffee, Facial, Game, Group, Hiking, Imagery, Jogging, Lazy, Loaf, Lounge, Manicure, Market, Massage, Meeting, Park, Planning, Playing, Prayer, Reading, Reset, Rest, Ride, Rituals, Run, Salon, Service, Shake, Shopping, Sleep, Snooze, Spas, Sports, Steps, Stretch, Sunrise, Walks, Wellness, Workout **Answer: Cartoons**

HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

♈ ARIES | March 21-April 19

** People are a bit touchy today, so be patient with yourself as well as others. Discussions about shared property, shared responsibilities, inheritances and financial matters might turn into power struggles today. Be wise and postpone these for another day. Tonight: Keep the peace. This Week: You look good!

♉ TAURUS | April 20-May 20

*** Be patient when talking to partners, spouses or close friends today, because people are uneasy and quick to take offense. Feelings of jealousy can arise out of nowhere. You'll enjoy doing something different. Tonight: Check your finances. This Week: Travel, explore, do something different!

♊ GEMINI | May 21-June 20

** Don't make a big issue about anything at work, or related to health care workers or even your pet, because ego battles might arise. People feel emotionally invested in whatever they're doing today. Tread carefully! Tonight: Patience. This Week: Romance is passionate. You might get richer.

♋ CANCER | June 21-July 22

*** Parents need to be patient with their kids today to avoid meltdowns and hissy fits. Constructive criticism can help, but encouragement does more. (You're the adult.) Tiptoe through the tulips. Tonight: Relax. This Week: Relationships are warm and friendly.

♌ LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

** Avoid disagreements at home by going out, keeping silent or getting involved in your own project, because power struggles are classic today. It's not just you, the vibes are everywhere. Don't make a big deal about anything. Tonight: Cocoon. This Week: A productive, sociable week!

♍ VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

*** Use today's energy to enjoy creative projects, social outings or any kind of escape activity. Meanwhile, discussions with siblings, relatives and neighbors might be irritating or worse. Tonight: Conversations. This Week: Socialize! Explore romance!

♎ LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

** Money squabbles might arise today. These could pertain to earnings and cash flow. Table this discussion for another day. You need harmony in your everyday environment. Be your own best friend. Tonight: Check your belongings. This Week: Entertain at home.

♏ SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

*** Today the Moon in your sign is at odds with your ruler Pluto, which can trigger compulsive behaviors, sudden urges and impulses. On the upside, it's a good day for emotional self-analysis, because you're willing to be honest. Tonight: You're strong. This Week: A busy, fast-paced, upbeat week!

♐ SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

** You might be nursing feelings of guilt, jealousy or a general feeling of restlessness today. Focus on financial matters to distract your mind. Get outside and take a walk. Tonight: Privacy. This Week: Money, shopping and boosting your income.

♑ CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

*** Emotional power struggles with friends or members of groups are likely today. You might even encounter someone who is manipulating your feelings to get their way. If something looks dicey, go the other direction. Tonight: Friendships. This Week: Shop for wardrobe treasures.

♒ AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

** Don't be the victim of a public argument where others look askance at you and make you feel chagrined. Be aware that you're high-viz today, which means people notice you more than usual. Tonight: Show respect. This Week: Improve your health and your job.

♓ PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

*** Controversial subjects like politics and racial issues will bring power struggles today, no question. Steer clear of these for your own peace of mind. After all, you want to have a happy day; you don't want angst. Well, nobody does. Tonight: Escape. This Week: You're popular! Romance sizzles!

THE METRO FUNNIES

BC BY MASTROIANNI AND HART
@$%# OFF! I GOT NOTHIN'!
OH, MAGIC CRYSTAL BALL... SHOW ME MY FUTURE.
OH, WOW!
OH, BOY.
ERROR 404
NOW I'VE DONE IT!
Archie
THE BOYS STAY PRODUCTIVE DURING LUNCH HOUR, DON'T THEY?
OH, YES!
THEY'RE WORKING ON NEW AND BETTER WAYS TO PLAY WITH THEIR FOOD!
HEY, I THOUGHT UP A NEW GAME! IT'S CALLED "LUNCHROOM GOLF"!
SMACK THE BALL WITH YOUR SPOON! MANEUVER THROUGH THE PLATES...
...AROUND THE CONDIMENTS, BETWEEN THE GLASSES, INTO THE BACKPACK!
YOU'RE ON!
SMACK!
SLOOP!
THOUGHT UP A NEW GAME! "DETENTION ROOM GOLF"!
DETENTION HALL
Wizard of Id
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker
BURP
COUGH
THAT'S $100, SIR
NEXT
COUGH
THAT'LL BE $100
NEXT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
WIZARD'S 10-DAY MIRACLE DIET
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THIS STOMACH BUG

PENTALETTA

Can you find 25 or more words containing only the five letters shown on the left? Each word must include the letter in the centre, in this case H, and must contain at least four letters, but there is no limit on the number of times you can use a letter in any word. Your list should include an accepting eight-letter word.

(Solution: next Sunday)

Average mark: 25 words • **Good:** 31 words
Excellent: 37 words • **Incredible:** 41 words

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION:

alfalfa, faff, faffs, falafel, fall, falls, false, feel, feels, fees, felafel, fell, fella, fellas, fells, fess, fesse, fesses, flea, fleas, flee, flees, leaf, leafless, leafs, safe, safes, self.

The clued word was: SELFLESS

LAST SUNDAY SQUIRE'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Court, 4 Plundered, 9 Volume of traffic, 10 Reviewing, 11 Trace, 12 Radiate, 13 Tenants, 15 Commend, 18 Lowered, 20 Attic, 22 Lethargic, 24 Morning sickness, 25 Dismantle, 26 Tasty.

Down: 1 Cover, 2 Unloved, 3 Temperate, 4 Promise, 5 Uptight, 6 Draft, 7 Refrain, 8 Decreased, 12 Reclaimed, 14 Newmarket, 16 Matures, 17 Delight, 18 Lattice, 19 Regress, 21 China, 23 Cushy.

Prize word: Render

LAST SUNDAY SKELETON SOLUTIONS

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

CHESS

1. Ng3! Qh6 2. Rh4! wins the queen [from Gupta-Salem '14].

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

Quick — A5297

9	4	3	5	1	2	8	6	7
6	2	5	9	7	8	3	4	1
7	1	8	6	4	3	9	2	5
3	5	2	8	9	1	4	7	6
1	7	4	2	3	6	5	8	9
8	6	9	4	5	7	2	1	3
4	3	6	7	8	5	1	9	2
5	8	7	1	2	9	6	3	4
2	9	1	3	6	4	7	5	8

Tricky — B5297

1	4	9	2	8	5	7	6	3
6	8	2	7	3	1	5	4	9
7	3	5	4	6	9	2	1	8
5	2	3	1	9	8	6	7	4
8	7	6	3	5	4	9	2	1
9	1	4	6	2	7	8	3	5
2	9	7	8	4	3	1	5	6
4	6	8	5	1	2	3	9	7
3	5	1	9	7	6	4	8	2

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

You can win 'em all

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A J 9 5
♥ 7 5 4
♦ K Q 8 6 2
♣ 9

WEST
♠ K 4
♥ A K 10 8 3 2
♦ 10 7 5 4
♣ 6

EAST
♠ 8 7 6 3
♥ Q J 9 6
♦ J 9 3
♣ 10 4

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 2
♥ --
♦ A
♣ A K Q J 8 7 5 3 2

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	7 ♣
Dble			

Opening lead -- ace of hearts.

The 1974 Spingold Teams was won by the then relatively unknown foursome of Steve Goldberg, Lou Bluhm, Richard Shepherd and Larry Gould, all of Georgia.

This deal proved decisive in one of their matches. Shepherd (North) and Gould (South) bid and made a doubled grand slam after West had opened one heart and East had responded one notrump.

Gould's pass of one notrump might seem peculiar, but he knew the bidding would not die at this point because his opponents (Bobby Goldman and Mark Blumenthal of the Dallas Aces) were playing the notrump response as a forcing bid.

When Goldman rebid two hearts and the next two players passed, Gould began to make up for lost time by cuebidding hearts. This pleased Shepherd greatly, since he had an exceptionally good hand considering his previous silence, and he indicated this by responding four hearts -- a cuebid of his own.

Gould was delighted by this development and jumped to six clubs. Shepherd, who assumed his partner had a two-suited hand rather than a one-suiter, then corrected six clubs to six diamonds, expecting to locate either a diamond or spade fit.

But when South persisted with seven clubs, West, under the impression that his opponents had had some kind of accident, doubled and led the heart ace. Gould ruffed, drew trump, cashed the ace of diamonds and claimed 13 tricks for a score of 2,330 points. And that's how championships are won!

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:55pm	05:21pm	06:01pm	05:20pm	05:26pm	05:55pm
Sunrise	07:13am	07:10am	07:17am	07:01am	07:17am	07:25am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow			Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook	Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	4	14	Partly Cloudy	84	5	14	Partly Cloudy	4	13	Sunny
Hyderabad	6	22	Sunny	66	6	24	Sunny	7	23	Sunny
Islamabad	7	18	Mostly Cloudy	53	6	18	Cloudy	5	17	Sunny
Lahore	3	14	Sunny	82	5	14	Mostly Cloudy	5	12	Sunny
Multan	5	14	Partly Cloudy	91	4	15	Partly Cloudy	4	16	Sunny
Peshawar	3	18	Mostly Cloudy	54	4	17	Cloudy	4	17	Sunny
Quetta	2	13	Cloudy	46	1	14	Sunny	1	14	Sunny

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.